in the Constitution has led to a variety of practices to compensate office holders in means other than by salary. Consequently, we have today in the General Assembly the practice of paying per diem living expenses, which amount to \$25.00 a day or \$1,750 a year. If you add this \$1,750 a year, which I believe is adopted by rule of the House and Senate, to the dollar figure contained in the Constitution as classified salary, you will see that the actual compensation to the members of the General Assembly is not the \$2,400 listed explicitly in the Constitution, but \$4,100.

It was the feeling of the Committee on the Legislative Branch that the salaries should be realistic ones, and should not allow for the providing of the daily expense figure, and consequently we have specifically prohibited the payment in the daily expenses during the regular session of the General Assembly.

We have recommended that the salary of the members of the General Assembly be set at \$8,000 per year. This figure is not contained in the Constitution. The Committee has voted to provide that the \$8,000

1.9